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California Department of Housing and Community Development Building Official Named to National Green Building Standards Committee

(Sacramento) – California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) Director Lynn L. Jacobs today announced that Doug Hensel, Assistant Deputy Director for the Division of Codes and Standards has been named to the American National Standards Institute's Consensus Committee. The Committee is charged with developing the National Green Building StandardTM which will provide a common benchmark for recognizing and rewarding green residential design, development, and construction practices.

"Doug's selection to serve on this Committee is well-deserved recognition for his many contributions to the improved safety of residential building construction and of California's leadership in taking action to reduce the negative impacts of human enterprise on our environment," said Director Jacobs. "Doug is the only public official from California to be named to the Committee and I am confident he will represent the people of California and the goals of the Administration knowledgeably and with exceptional diligence."

Mr. Hensel was appointed Assistant Chief of the Housing Standards Section for the Codes and Standards Division at the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) on July 7, 2006. Since January 2006, he has served as Acting State Housing Law Program Manager for HCD with oversight responsibility for the State Housing Law Code Program. From 2001 to 2006, Doug served as a District Representative for HCD developing code adoption packages. Prior to HCD, Doug spent 17 years working in local Building Departments as an inspector, plans examiner, and project manager.

The National Association of Home Builders Research Council and the International Codes Council, the co-sponsors of the effort, intend for the Standard to highlight ways a mainstream home builder can effectively weave environmental solutions holistically into a new home and provide a tool that local associations can use to create their own green home building program. The Standard will employ a point system to evaluate and reduce environmental impacts of residential construction in several categories including: lot design, preparation, and development, resource efficiency, energy efficiency, water efficiency, indoor environmental quality, and global impact

When completed, the Standard can be adopted by local green home building programs or local building departments as a conformance guide. Information on the timeline and draft Standard can be found at http://www.nahbrc.org/technical/standards/greenbuilding.aspx.